



# VIRGINIA BIRDING & WILDLIFE TRAIL

## SITE NOMINATION FORM



The Virginia Birding & Wildlife Trail is a statewide project comprised of a series of driving loops, utilizing existing roadways. The Birding Trail is intended to unify existing and potential Virginia wildlife-watching sites into a single, cohesive marketing entity. Many of the sites along the proposed Trail are already being used by thousands of birders annually. However, most of these locations function independently and they are limited in their capabilities to market their resources or gain economies of scale.

The Trail was developed in three phases. The Coastal Phase was first and consists mainly of areas east of I-95. The Mountain Phase consists of the mountainous regions west of US Hwy 29. The Central Phase includes sites between US Hwy 29 and I-95. Our goal is to have each site be no more than a 30-45 minute drive from neighboring sites. Each site must be open to the public and have the habitat necessary to attract both wildlife and wildlife watchers.

The broad-scale participation of agencies, organizations, communities, service providers, private landholders and individuals is critical to the development and implementation of the Trail. Initial site nominations were accepted from 2000-2003 for the three phases of the Trail. The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries **continues to accept nominations for sites to be included in the Virginia Birding & Wildlife Trail through the Trail web site.** All nominations accepted after the completion of the final phase will be evaluated for inclusion on the Agency web site and in future publications highlighting the statewide Trail and will be added to existing loops where feasible. *To nominate a site, please fill out this form and send it with the required attachments to Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries, Birding and Wildlife Trail, PO Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23230.*

PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE (YOU MAY TYPE DIRECTLY ONTO THIS FORM, ON-SCREEN, BEFORE PRINTING)

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Access (Please check all that apply):

Free to the public    Entry Fee    Day use only    Camping available (    RV    Tent    Wilderness)

Special permit or permission required for entry (please describe):

Hours of Operation (please indicate any seasonal changes):

Site Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Site Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Site Street Address (if different from above): \_\_\_\_\_

Web address (URL) if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_

**Specific** directions from closest major highway (include distances between turns, i.e. at State Highway 1 and County Rd A, turn east onto County Rd A., Go 4.3 miles to Park Road C, turn south (right), travel 0.3 miles to the entrance) (please attach).

In approximately 50 –200 words, please describe what makes this site attractive to birders and other wildlife watchers, when they should come (e.g. year round, fall migration, spring migration, winter, etc.), what they can expect to see, and any birding tips (e.g. be sure to check the XYZ trees in the parking lot for migrating warblers in the fall). Please attach separate sheet if needed.

**Contact person for site:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Site nominator (if different than contact person):**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's association/relationship to site: \_\_\_\_\_

Please list the Chamber(s) of Commerce, Tourist Information Center and/or Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) that can provide information on visiting the site and on places to stay, eat and visit in the area (enclose brochures and/or attach separate sheet if needed).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Toll Free Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Web site URL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Site Evaluation Criteria:** We will be using the following criteria when sites are being evaluated for inclusion on the Virginia Coastal Birding Trail. Please check the criteria that the site you are nominating meets, and provide the additional information requested.

Site possesses a unique, rich birding resource.

Site manifests the Virginia natural experience.

Public has access to the site, or access can be arranged.

Ownership is public, or private owners are willing to allow public access to the site.

Visitor support facilities (including, but not limited to restrooms and drinking water) are available either on-site or in the proximate communities.

Site is within 30-60 minutes (drive time) of additional potential Trail sites.

Site has local sponsors and/or partners in the local community to provide management and upkeep

Sponsor's name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Tourism infrastructure (bed & breakfasts, hotels, restaurants, guide services, etc.) exists in the local community.

Nature tourism is an integral part of our area's overall regional economic development plan.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Please attach the following documents:

- ☐ The appropriate **county map** with the location of your site clearly marked. If a Virginia Department of Transportation map is not available, please attach a detailed map showing the site and location.
- ☐ Any available brochures or articles about the site
- ☐ Additional sheets for site description, Visitor's Bureaus, etc., if necessary

**PLEASE SEND THIS FORM AND ATTACHMENTS TO:**

**Virginia Dept. of Game and Inland Fisheries  
Birding and Wildlife Trail  
PO Box 11104  
Richmond, VA 23230**

For more information concerning the Virginia Birding & Wildlife Trail, contact David Whitehurst, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (DGIF), [birdingtrail@dgif.virginia.gov](mailto:birdingtrail@dgif.virginia.gov) or (804) 367-4335 or [online](#).